

## **I-5 – South 317<sup>th</sup> Street HOV Direct Access Project Update**

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### **Construction Update**

Crews are back on the job after a one-week break for the holidays. Last night we demolished and removed curb, railing and pavement on the left side of the northbound I-5 bridge over Military Road. We're preparing to widen the bridge to make room for the new carpool lane on this section of northbound I-5. The I-5 carpool lanes currently end at Military Road, but we're extending them to south of S. 320<sup>th</sup> Street.

Upcoming work scheduled this month includes finishing the second support for the new S. 317<sup>th</sup> Street bridge and setting the bridge girders. Crews working for Sound Transit will begin work on the second level of the new Federal Way Transit Center just west of the freeway at S. 317<sup>th</sup>.

### **Nighttime I-5 Lane Closures**

From Sunday, Jan. 9 through Thursday, Jan. 13, drivers should expect nighttime closures of three southbound lanes and two northbound lanes on I-5 near S. 320<sup>th</sup> Street from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. These closures are necessary for crews to do excavation and shoring and install drainage structures.

### **Lane Changes Prohibited**

Driving on the temporary roadway is an unusual experience for drivers, and we're doing everything we can to make it safe and convenient for everyone while we construct the bridge supports and remove and replace the southbound I-5 pavement. It is very important for drivers to stay in their lane while driving through the temporary roadway. In fact, it is illegal to change lanes on this section of I-5, as indicated by the solid white lines between lanes.

You can view a photo of the temporary roadway at [http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5\\_S317th\\_DirectAccess/photos/oct04.html](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5_S317th_DirectAccess/photos/oct04.html). This photo was taken from the S. 320<sup>th</sup> Street bridge, looking north. You can see how the lanes split around the bridge support. To the immediate left is the work zone where we're removing and replacing the southbound I-5 pavement. And to the far left, you can see the S. 320<sup>th</sup> Street exit, beyond the orange barrels.

The temporary configuration of the lanes is as follows:

The four southbound I-5 lanes taper toward the median, starting at Military Road.

The southbound I-5 exit to S. 320<sup>th</sup> Street is a single lane that breaks off from the rest of the southbound lanes as they begin tapering toward the median.

At the S. 320<sup>th</sup> Street bridge, the southbound I-5 lanes split around the middle bridge support – two lanes on each side – and come back together just past the bridge.

The work zone on the southbound I-5 lanes sits between the temporary roadway and the S. 320<sup>th</sup> Street exit.

It's also important for drivers to pay attention to the signs we've placed in advance of and within the project area. And slow down! It's much more important to get through the 1.3-mile work zone safely than quickly.

If you change lanes in the temporary roadway, you could be fined. The fine for this traffic infraction is \$202. That could buy you a latté every workday for 2 ½ months, or fill your gas tank six times!

Drivers will be using the temporary roadway through this spring, so please remember to stay in your lane, be alert to signs, and obey the speed limit. We need your cooperation to keep everyone safe.

## Sign Up!

Did you receive this e-mail update by someone forwarding it to you? If so, we'd love to have you join our update list. Just send a quick e-mail to [Johnsol@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:Johnsol@wsdot.wa.gov) with "subscribe" in the subject line, and we'll add your e-mail address to the list for the I-5 – S. 317<sup>th</sup> Street HOV Direct Access Project update. You'll receive a subscription confirmation, and then you'll receive this project update directly each Tuesday.

## Highway Advisory Radio Updates

Make sure you catch our latest weekly radio message on **AM 1520** in Federal Way. Questions or comments? E-mail Laura Johnson at [Johnsol@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:Johnsol@wsdot.wa.gov).

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